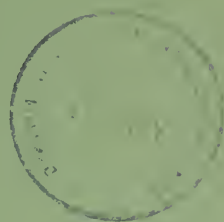


2 BOROUGH OF BURY ST. EDMUNDS



ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

---

1970

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- 1 -

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR  
ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
OF THE BOROUGH OF BURY ST. EDMUNDS

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Public Health Service for the year 1970.

Substantial rises in the estimated population have been recorded each year for a number of years past but in 1970 the increase was negligible.

Reductions occurred in the birth and death rates, but when corrected for the age and sex distribution of the population the birth rate remained above and the death rate substantially below the corresponding rates for England and Wales as a whole. There was a welcome reduction in the infant mortality rate and the general incidence of infectious disease remained low.

Much of the work of the Public Health Department is described by your Chief Public Health Inspector whose report is included herewith. It should be noted in particular that the alteration and enlargement of one slaughterhouse is expected to result in a further large increase over and above that reported in 1970 in the number of animals killed for human consumption and that this will bring a corresponding increase in the work of meat inspection.

Under the heading of Housing reference is made to the change which has occurred in the emphasis previously on slum clearance to encouragement of the improvement and modernisation of existing houses.

My thanks are due to all the members of the staff of the Public Health Department and especially to Mr. J.H. Easdown your Chief Public Health Inspector for his loyal support at all times and in particular for his help in the compilation of this report.

I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued interest and encouragement.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

P. COGGIN BROWN

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

P. Coggin-Brown, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

This Officer also holds the following appointments -

Assistant County Medical Officer	}	West Suffolk County Council
School Medical Officer		
Medical Officer of Health		Thingoe Rural District Council

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E.H. Box, F.A.P.H.I. died 4th April, 1970

J.H. Easdown, M.A.P.H.I. appointed 6th April, 1970

This Officer is also appointed Inspector under the

Shops Act, 1950

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936

The Explosives Acts, 1875 and 1923

Diseases of Animals Act, 1950

and as Improvement Officer under the Housing Act, 1969

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

J.H. Easdown, M.A.P.H.I. post unfilled from  
6th April, 1970

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

J. Ellis, M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

B.G.R. Coley, M.A.P.H.I.

R.J. Smith, M.A.P.H.I. resigned 8th March, 1970

J.A. Croydon, M.A.P.H.I. commenced 4th May, 1970

AUTHORISED MEAT INSPECTORS

K.G. Knight, A.M.R.S.H., M.A.M.I.,  
resigned 1st May, 1970

S. Kenworthy, M.A.M.I.

J. Bostock, M.A.M.I. commenced 9th March, 1970

J. Purton, M.A.M.I. commenced 29th June, 1970

ASSISTANT TO PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Miss A.D. Wright

STUDENT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

P.W.L. Sampson

SHORTHAND/TYPIST

Mrs. J. Davies resigned 12th April, 1970

Miss B. Moore commenced 4th May, 1970

CLERK

Miss E. Hopkins

RODENT OPERATOR

L. Cardy

# VITAL STATISTICS

ALL FIGURES IN BRACKETS which follow in the sequence of this report relate to the corresponding figures for 1969.

Registrar General's Estimate for 1970	25,150	(25,140)
Census April 1961	21,144	
Rateable Value.	£1,306,292	(£1,233,594)
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (Est.)	£5,390	(£5,150)
Area	3,672 Acres.	

POPULATION:- Although 1970 was the eighth consecutive year that an increase in the population was recorded, the Registrar General's Estimate showed the negligible increase of ten.

BIRTHS:- There was a slight decline in the birth rate but the figure when corrected for the age and sex distribution of the population remained substantially above that for England and Wales as a whole.

LIVE BIRTHS:-	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	441 (476)	233 (242)	208 (234)
Illegitimate	24 (19)	13 (12)	11 (7)
Percentage of illegitimate live births of total live births:		5.0	(4.0)
Crude Birth Rate, per 1,000 of population:		18.5	(18.9)
Comparability Factor for Births:		0.98	(0.98)
Birth Rate per 1,000 corrected for comparability		18.1	(18.5)
Birth Rate per 1,000 of population England and Wales:		16.0	(16.3)

STILL BIRTHS	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	6 (5)	2 (4)	4 (1)
Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 of total (live and still) births:		13.0	(10.0)
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 of total (live and still) births England and Wales:		13.0	(13.0)

DEATHS:- There was a further decline in the death rate and the corrected figure of 8.8 per 1,000 of the population was very substantially below that for England and Wales. Fewer deaths occurred from respiratory diseases, from cancer and from accidental causes, but there was a slight increase in the number of deaths from cerebrovascular diseases.

DEATHS:-	Total	Male	Female
	284 (325)	155 (163)	129 (162)
Crude death rate per 1,000 of population:		11.3	(12.9)



Comparability Factor for deaths:	0.78	(0.75)
Death Rate per 1,000 of population corrected for comparability:	8.8	(9.7)
Death Rate per 1,000 of population England and Wales:	11.7	(11.9)
Ratio of Local corrected death rate to the national rate:	0.75	(0.81)

INFANT MORTALITY:- The actual number of deaths of infants under one year of age decreased from 11 in the previous year to 5 in the year under review. The causes of the infant deaths, all of which occurred in the first week of life, were as follows:-

Congenital malformations	1
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	2
Other causes of perinatal mortality	2

Deaths of infants under one year of age:—

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	5 (9)	4 (6)	1 (3)
Illegitimate	- (2)	- (2)	- (-)
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births		11.0	(23.0)
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births			
England and Wales:		18.0	(18.0)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The general incidence of infectious disease was low.

Measles: Thirty eight cases were notified. Although measles is often a mild illness potentially serious complications are not uncommon and it is for this reason the use of live measles vaccine is advocated.

**Food Poisoning:** Five separate cases were notified, each was due to a Salmonella infection and in one case the infection was believed to have been acquired in another district.

# PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

Age and sex distribution of new cases 1970

Age	0	1	5	10	15	20	25	35	45	55	65+	Total
Male						1		2				3
Female												

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR

1970

IN BURY ST. EDMUNDS

Registrar General's  
Figures

	<u>M</u> 155	<u>F</u> 129
ALL CAUSES		
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	4	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	8	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	3	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	4	8
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	1	-
Diabetes Mellitus	1	-
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	-	1
Anaemias	1	-
Other Diseases of Blood etc.	-	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	-
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	2
Hypertensive Disease	-	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	36	18
Other forms of Heart Disease	10	12
Cerebrovascular Disease	12	22
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	11	6
Influenza	2	-
Pneumonia	26	33
Bronchitis and Emphysema	7	1
Asthma	1	-
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	1
Peptic Ulcer	3	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
Other Diseases Genito-Urinary System	2	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	2	-
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	1	1
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	2	-
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	1	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1
All Other Accidents	4	3

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE  
DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

DISEASE	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over	Age unknown	TOTALS
MEASLES	2	8	6	5	4	8	2	2	-	1	38
DYSENTERY	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
SCARLET FEVER	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
FOOD POISONING	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	5
WHOOPING COUGH	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
INFECTIVE HEPATITIS	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES  
(OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

DISEASE	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTALS
MEASLES	3	5	-	-	-	4	7	6	3	-	5	5	38
DYSENTERY	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
SCARLET FEVER	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
FOOD POISONING	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	5
WHOOPING COUGH	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
INFECTIVE													



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

### Water Supply

The water undertakers for the Borough are the West Suffolk Water Board. Supplies during the year have been satisfactory by way of quality, although doubts were expressed about the quantity during the fine and dry summer months.

The following is the report of the Borough Surveyor:-

### Swimming Pool

The commencement of the 1970 season saw the installation of heating equipment so that the water was heated to a reasonable temperature at all times. As a result, the number of people using the swimming pool rose sharply as compared with previous years, the actual figures being 29,475 children (20,488 in 1969, 15,522 in 1968) and 7,602 adults (3,594 in 1969, 1,954 in 1968). In addition to these figures use of the pool was made by schools and other organisations, and as usual a fairly large number of children and adults took season tickets (300 children and 53 adults). No less than 5,067 people paid for admission to watch the swimming, without actually taking part themselves.

### Refuse Collection and Disposal

Regular weekly collections of domestic refuse were carried out during the year and in addition trade refuse was collected. All refuse was disposed of at West Stow. Where necessary, special collections to remove bulky household items were arranged.

### Sewage Disposal

The contract for extending the sewage disposal works at Fornham Park and Pigeon Lane was continued during the year and the new sludge pressing plant came into use in the early part of the summer.

The final effluent which flows to the River Lark has been of a high standard of purity. It is anticipated that the whole of the contract, which will complete the extension work, will be concluded during the first half of 1971.

R A I N F A L L

The rainfall recorded during 1970 was as follows:-

Month	Total for month (inches)	Maximum rainfall on any day during month
January	2.54	0.31
February	2.60	0.43
March	1.53	0.39
April	2.73	0.45
May	0.50	0.42
June	0.41	0.15
July	1.04	0.24
August	1.08	0.45
September	2.14	1.20
October	1.14	0.28
November	5.97	1.68
December	2.24	0.34
Total	<u>23.92</u>	

MILK

Number of milk samples taken in Bury St. Edmunds  
by West Suffolk County Council Weights and Measures Department  
from January to December 1970

Quality		Bacteriological			
Chemical		Phosphatase	Methylene Blue		
Passed	Tailed	Passed	Tailed	Passed	Tailed
41	-	72	-	72	-

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

During 1970 the following inspections were carried out by the Public Health Inspectors and other members of the Department.

As will be seen from the figures the number of inspections carried out during the year is rather more than that for 1969. I should, however, point out that the Rodent Control figure includes, for the first time, the treatments and surveys undertaken by the Rodent Operator. For comparison purposes, that is excluding the Rodent Operator's work, 1,853 inspections less than the 1969 total were carried out in 1970. In the main this was caused by illness and staff changes within the Department, at one time there being only 2/5ths of the establishment of Public Health Inspectors on duty.

<u>SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Complaints and Nuisances	-	826
Dustbins	23	3
Refuse tip	16	9
Stables and piggeries	6	-
Ponds, pools and ditches	84	45
In connection with verminous persons	1	1
Insanitary houses	130	25
Disinfections and Disinfestations	-	9
Drainage work	755	350
Infectious Disease enquiries	77	133
Rodent Control	110	2172
Schools	3	1
Noise	121	32
Hairdressers and Barbers	37	15
Caravans	121	45
Exhumations	-	-
Housing Act 1969 - Improvement and Qualification Certificates	-	639
Housing	2914	924
Food Premises	752	494
Unsound Food	298	409
Stalls and Markets	265	229
Ice Cream, Cream and Water sampling	160	136
Slaughterhouses	2081	2079
Poultry Inspection	891	805
Ice Cream Vendors	36	40
Atmospheric pollution	127	46
Shops Act provisions	170	139
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	877	831
Factories	253	89
Agriculture (Safety, Health & Welfare)	-	2
Pet Shops	8	3
Explosive Stores	52	44
Diseases of Animals Act provisions	136	186
Rag Flock, and other Fillings Act provisions	-	2
Game Dealers	7	9
Petroleum installation and stores	318	292
Animal Boarding Establishments	8	-
Riding Establishments	3	2
Lectures	13	6
Interviews with owners, etc.	686	853
Miscellaneous	430	318
	<u>11,969</u>	<u>12,243</u>



## STATUTORY NOTICES

Whilst the clearance and/or repair of many sewers and drains was achieved during the year by informal action and advice, it was considered necessary to serve eight statutory notices requiring work to be carried out.

Five notices were served to control the demolition of houses. These notices are in respect of such items as the sealing or grubbing-up of drains, tidiness of the site, stability and weatherproofing of exposed gable walls of adjoining properties etc.

No nuisance abatement notices were served.

## WATER

There are now nine public and private swimming pools in the Borough. Seven samples were taken from these swimming pools and all but one were found to be satisfactory. Advice was given in this case and a further sample was found to be of good quality.

Forty eight samples were taken from private wells and the mains water supply. In twelve instances (all from the same well) samples were found to be unsatisfactory. The samples revealed the presence of faecal coli, the highest level being 250 E. coli (type I) per 100 ml. Advice was given in this case and a chlorination process was implemented. The last three samples from this well were found to be satisfactory.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The general standard of hygiene in food premises in the town remained at a high level and very few complaints were received about unhygienic practices observed by the general public.

During the year the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970 were published and come into operation on the 1st March, 1971. They are intended to replace the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960 and in the main present very little change from their predecessors. One can only express disappointment that there has been so little advance in the required legal standards in food premises in the intervening 10 years. It is to be hoped that the much promised and long awaited amended requirements relating to temperature control of food will soon materialise.

As in previous years lectures were given by the Public Health Inspectors to senior pupils where requested by schools in the Borough.

## FOOD COMPLAINTS

In all, 42 complaints relating to food were received and investigated by the Department. Twenty four of these complaints concerned foreign bodies being found in the food and the remaining 18 complaints were made in respect of the condition of the food which had been purchased. Of the 42 complaints 8 concerned the condition of bread, 6 related to sausages, pies, etc. and 5 to dirty milk bottles. Perhaps the most unusual complaint concerned a fish hook complete with a short length of nylon line found in an imported tin of salmon.

## PROCEEDINGS

Two prosecutions were carried over from 1969 and were heard in the local Magistrates Court during the year. One was an offence under the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966 and involved a food handler smoking whilst handling open food and resulted in the case being proved and the stall-holder fined £10 with 3 guineas costs. The other offence was under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 when a large firm was found guilty of selling a black pudding unfit for human consumption and was fined £10 with 16 guineas costs.

I regret to say that it was found necessary to take two further prosecutions during the year. The first, under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 was taken against the same firm that sold the unfit black pudding. On this occasion the firm was found guilty of selling mouldy sausages unfit for human consumption and they were fined £25 with 5 guineas costs. The second prosecution was for using dirty milk bottles in contravention of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959 and the firm concerned was fined £50 with 3 guineas costs.

## ICE CREAM

Eighty premises are now registered for the storage and sale of ice cream as opposed to 73 in 1969. During the year 73 (91) samples of ice cream were taken, 71 of these being classified as Grade 1, 1 as grade 3 and 1 as grade 4. The low grade sample was taken from a mobile vendor and was followed up by an inspection of the van. It was found that the defaulting sample was caused by mixing a new batch of ice cream with the previous day's left-overs and this was, of course, inviting trouble. Advice was given and further samples proved to be satisfactory.

It is hoped that samples next year will mainly be taken from mobile traders and premises using soft ice cream with only a minority of samples coming from shop premises. The results of samples taken in recent years suggest that much unnecessary sampling of wrapped ice cream of proprietary brands takes place from premises and certainly for a trial period at least, more worthwhile results might be obtained from ice cream vans.

Three samples of artificial cream were taken from a factory manufacturing this product and all three were found to be satisfactory.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

As will be seen from the following table a total of 89,382 animals were slaughtered in the Borough for human consumption. This figure represents an increase of almost 10,000 animals on last year and is in the region of a rise in kill of  $12\frac{1}{2}\%$ .

	<u>Total number of animals killed for human consumption</u>
1949	6,592
1954	12,301
1959	16,280
1964	37,922
1965	64,628
1966	65,409
1967	65,675
1968	78,085
1969	79,588
1970	89,382



During the year an application was received from the larger of the two slaughterhouses for a new licence in respect of major extensions and alterations to their existing factory. This application was duly approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and construction work commenced shortly before the end of the year. When the extensions are completed this slaughterhouse will undoubtedly be one of the largest and most modern slaughterhouses in this part of the country and it is anticipated that after initial teething troubles, which will almost certainly be encountered, the number of animals killed will increase tremendously. A welcome innovation in this "new" slaughterhouse will be the installation of a vertical beef dressing line. In common with the majority of slaughterhouses in this country, the cattle are at the moment partly dressed whilst lying on the slaughterhouse floor. This traditional method of dressing is obviously prone to contamination of the flesh and in the interests of hygiene is to be avoided wherever possible. With the vertical dressing system, the animals never touch the floor and if the process is carried out properly little or no contamination of the carcase should result.

The speed of production in the new slaughterhouse will increase and whereas previously the line could cope with one beast every four minutes and an average of nearly one and a half pigs every minute, these figures will now become a beast every two minutes and two pigs a minute. Another advantage will be the fact that after the alterations it will be possible to kill both pigs and cattle or sheep simultaneously without any overcrowding or congestion of the premises.

Meat inspection takes up more man hours than any other single duty carried out by the Public Health Department and in spite of charging the maximum meat inspection fees permitted by law the meat inspection section is far from self-supporting. The maximum charges for meat inspection which were fixed in 1963 are long overdue for revision. To cope with the onus of meat inspection the Establishment of the Department was adjusted slightly during the year from 5 Public Health Inspectors and 2 Authorised Meat Inspectors to 4 Public Health Inspectors and 3 Meat Inspectors. This change has enabled the extra Meat Inspector to relieve a Public Health Inspector from much slaughterhouse work and enable him to fulfil other duties in the district.

During the routine post-mortem inspections at slaughterhouses 6 beasts were found to be infected with Tuberculosis compared with 5 in the previous year. Seven hundred pigs were also found to be suffering from Tuberculosis but in one case only was it necessary to totally reject the animal. One hundred and thirty animals were found to be infested with *Cysticercus bovis* but after incubation of the cysts only 11 were found to be viable. The incubation of the cyst is carried out at the slaughterhouse in a solution of bile and normal saline at human body temperature and this test (to confirm whether the cyst is alive) has greatly reduced the number of bodies required to be treated by refrigeration. The carcase and edible offals of beasts infested with viable *C. bovis* are kept for a minimum of 14 days at a temperature not exceeding 14°F. This treatment kills any live cysts and the meat is then released for human consumption. This type of cyst is found in the musculature of the animal and if ingested by a human could result in that person suffering from a tape worm infestation.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole  
or Part

- 14 -

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Goats
Number killed (if known)	14,986	666	168	16,540	57,022	-
Number inspected	14,986	666	168	16,540	57,022	-
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI						
Whole carcases condemned	5	12	23	29	359	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4,780	314	33	1,681	13,847	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	31.9	48.9	33.9	10.3	24.9	
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	1	-	-	699	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.033	0.15	-	-	1.23	-
CYSTICERCI						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	11	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	11	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-





## ANALYSIS OF CONDEMNED

	CATTLE						SHEEP	
	Whole Carcases	Heads and Tongues	Lungs	Livers & Part Livers	Skirts Udders & Mesenteries	Hearts, Kidneys & Spleens	Whole Carcases	Heads
Tuberculosis		2		1	3			
Pneumonia, Pericarditis, Pleurisy, Peritonitis, Melanosis, Emphysema, Xanthosis	2	2	1183	8		55	4	
Pyæmia, Pyrexia, Gangrene, Septicaemia, Lymphadenitis	3						3	
Liver Fluke, Cirrhosis and other Parasitic Conditions Hepatitis			81	2625				
Nephritis, Necrosis, Fibrosis, Degeneration, Odour, C. Angioma, Blood Splashing				124		59	2	
Emaciation, Oedema & Enteritis	8					1	12	
Actinomycosis and Actinobacillosis		91	5	1				
Brucellosis					24			
Tumours, Abscesses, Cystic Conditions, Adhesions	1	43	84	1167	125	42		
Septic Metritis & Mastitis	1				37			
C. bovis		10				1		
Icterus, Uraemia & Anaemia	2							
Swine Erysipelas, Swine Fever								
Moribund, Bruising, etc.		4					5	
Contamination		7	56		6			
Septic Arthritis								
Joint Ill, Leukaemia, Taint, Johnes Disease, Immaturity								
Congestion			51					
TOTALS	17	159	1460	3930	195	158	29	-

The following Carcase Meat was also condemned:

Bruising, Atrophy, Decomposition or Oedema	BEEF
Abscesses .. .. .	2249 lb.
Arthritis and Fibrosis .. .. .	334 lb.
Tuberculosis .. .. .	95 lb.
	- lb.

The total weight of all meat condemned is

EAT AND OFFAL

PIGS								CALVES						
Hearts and Kidneys	Whole Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Livers	Hearts	Mesentery fats and guts	Kidneys	Whole Carcases	Heads	Hearts	Livers	Lungs	Kidneys	Mesenteries
	1	686				13								
12	83		9895		1690							30		
	77					23		10						
8			16	3528										
	5						19						2	
	23					149								
2	113	35	70	1220	45	39	12							
							60							
	10													
	9													
	19													
19	4	1	54	3										
	15							1						
	1							9						
			8431											
41	360	722	18466	4751	1731	224	91	23	-	-	-	30	3	

MUTTON  
141 lb.  
62 lb.  
61 lb.

PORK  
4751 lb.  
10526 lb.  
4814 lb.

VEAL  
13 lb.  
42 lb.  
-

GOATS  
-  
-  
-

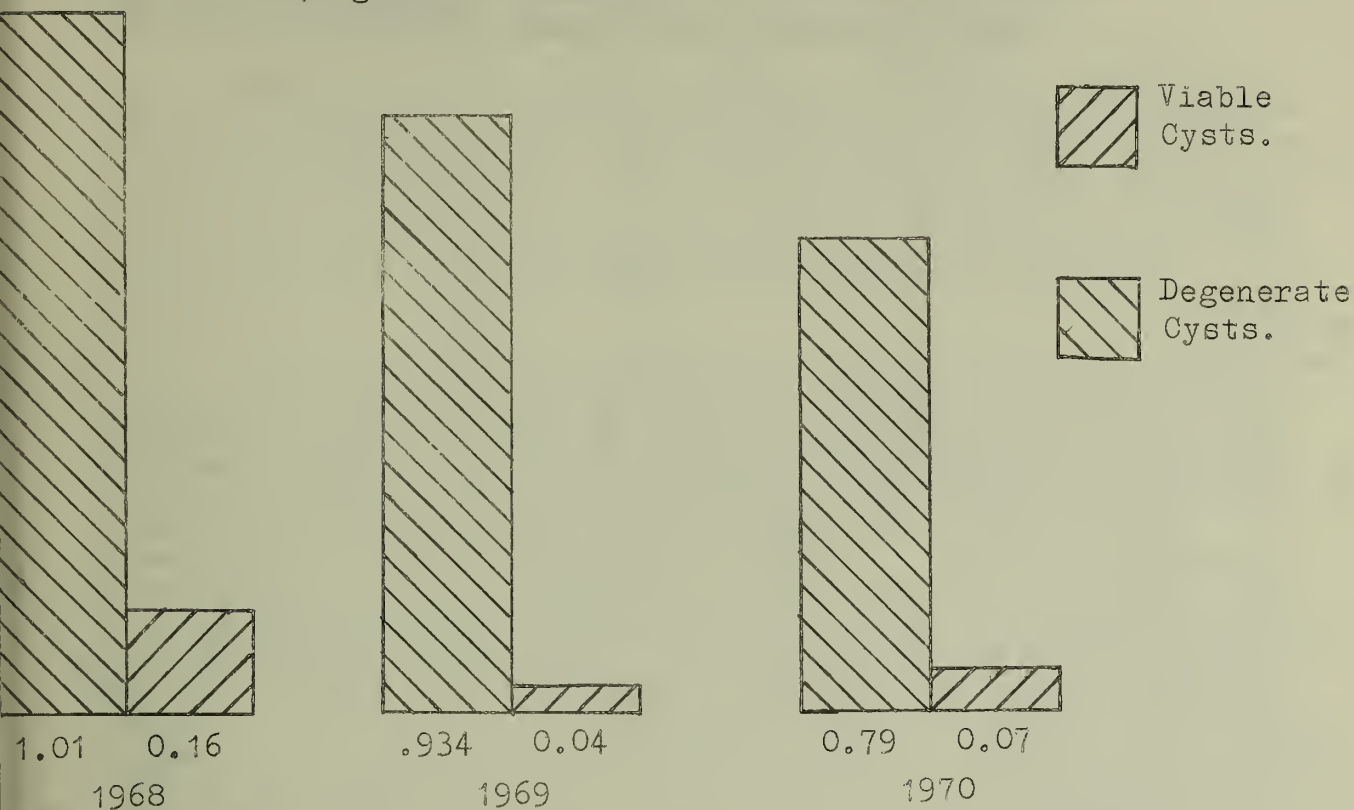
laughterhouses was 103 tons 3 cwt. - qrs. 10 lb.



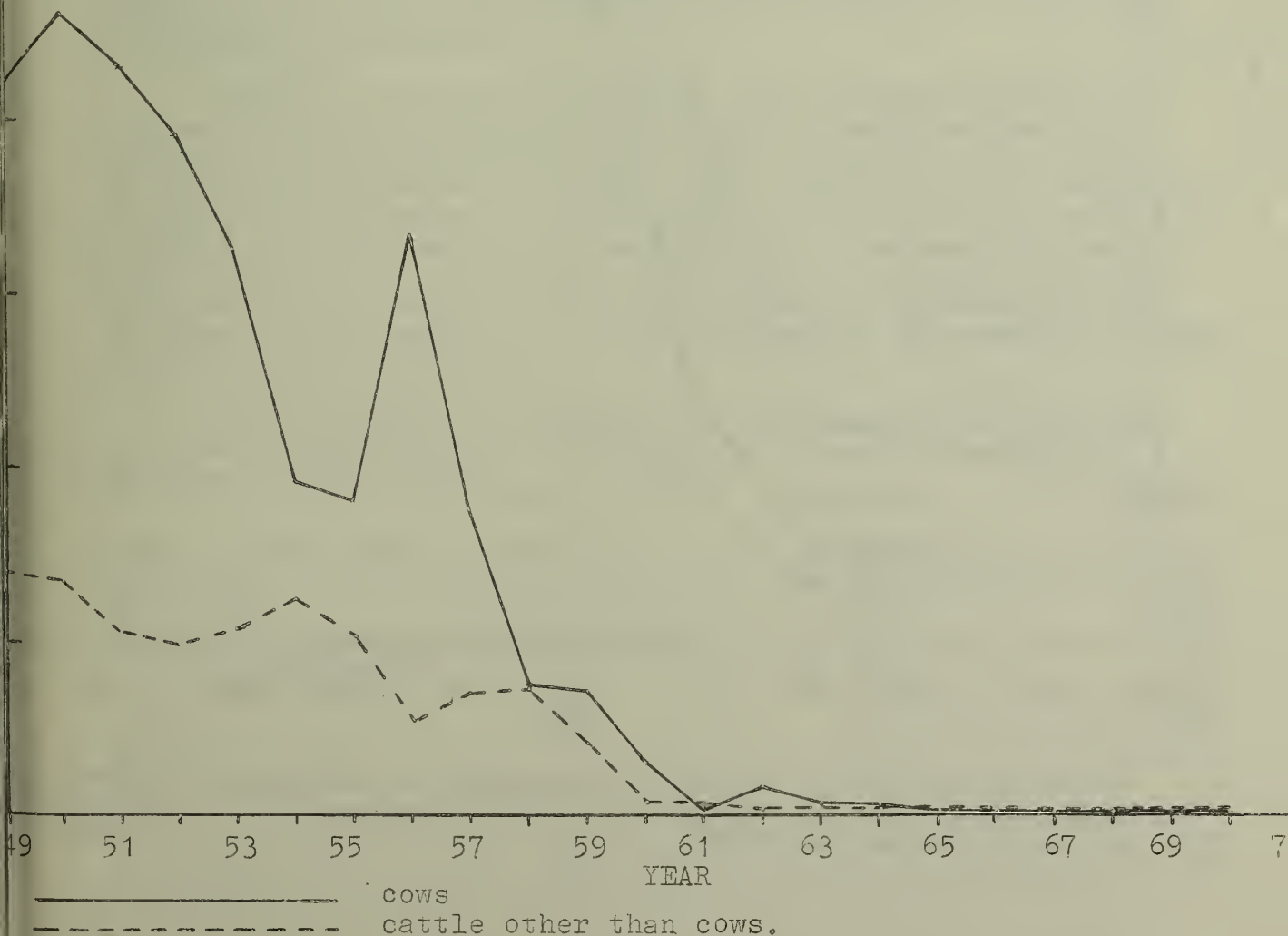


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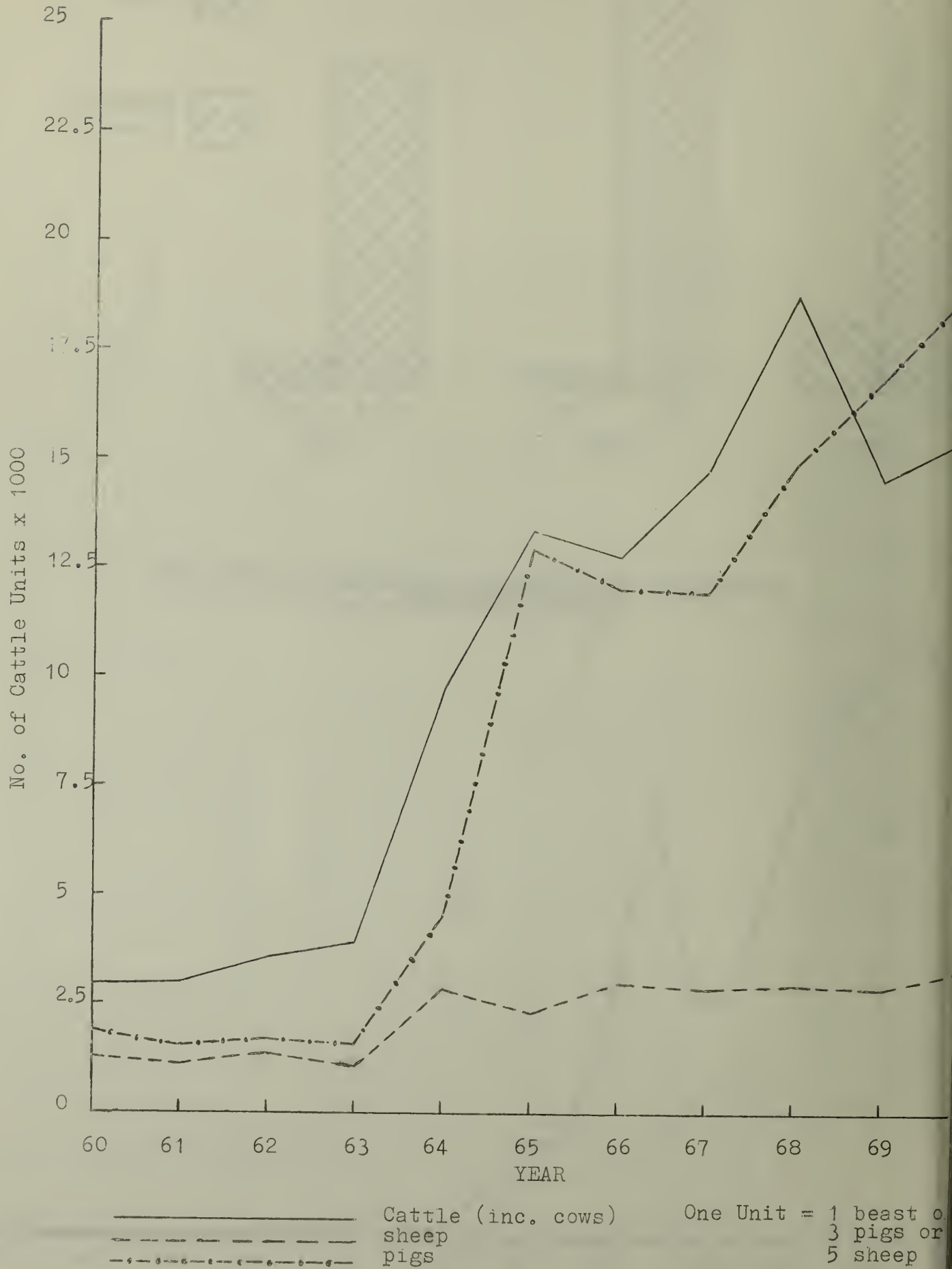
Percentage of Cattle and Cows found affected with  
Cysticercus bovis in 1968, 1969 and 1970  
 (Degenerate and viable cysts shown separately)



Percentage of Cattle and Cows found affected with  
Tuberculosis 1949 - 70



Number of Animals in Cattle Units Slaughtered  
Annually within the Borough 1960-70



## POULTRY INSPECTION

There are three poultry packing stations in daily use in the Borough. Two of these packing stations concentrate mainly on preparing broilers for the table although the smaller of the two establishments does not eviscerate birds. The remaining packing station deals almost exclusively with hens. The estimated kill for the year was just over 5½ million birds and in addition to these some 102,600 rabbits were also slaughtered.

Inspection of the poultry is carried out on the "spotter" system which entails all birds which are in any way abnormal being placed on one side by selected personnel in the packing stations. Daily visits are made to the packing stations when the Public Health Inspectors examine these birds to ascertain whether they are fit for human consumption. Whilst this system has obviously many disadvantages, it is at the moment, the best that can be devised. It is greatly to be hoped that one day, in the not too distant future, the responsibility for inspecting poultry will become statutory as in the case of red meat. When this time comes I am sure the local authority Inspectors will work in the poultry packing stations on the processing line and all inspections will be carried out by them. This compulsory extension of work by the local authority could, again as in the case of red meat inspection, be financed by making an inspection charge dependant upon the throughput of the premises.

In the continued absence of specific hygiene legislation to apply to packing stations, one can only apply the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations to these premises. With the poultry industry increasing in size at its present rate, it is trying that legislation regarding hygiene and inspection of the birds is lagging so far behind.

Towards the end of September, 1970 the Borough was beginning to be affected by the gathering storm of fowl pest and the associated restrictions on the movement of poultry. This greatly disturbed the work at the poultry packing stations and made big increases in the numbers of poultry which were moribund or found to be dead on arrival at the packing stations. A big increase in birds suffering from E. coli septicaemia was also encountered and these two factors were the cause of the increase in the numbers of birds voluntarily surrendered as being unfit for human consumption.

The following is a summary of the causes for voluntary surrender of the 88,726 birds unfit for human consumption.

	<u>Broilers</u>	<u>Hens</u>
Dead in crate and moribund	25,209	5,974
Abscesses	575	447
Emaciation	5,994	8,248
Tumours, including Marek's Disease	529	910
E. coli septicaemia	33,939	11
Septic peritonitis	26	1,898
Bruising	258	389
Ferrosis	127	7
Septic arthritis and synovitis	19	3
Ascites and Leucosis	46	2,187
Tuberculosis	-	20
Gangrene	11	101
Blackhead	45	-



	<u>Broilers</u>	<u>Hens</u>
Icterus	6	5
Septic pericarditis and septic pleurisy	-	981
Pyrexia	7	8
Parasitic	25	544
Oedema	22	33
Miscellaneous	68	54
	<u>66,906</u>	<u>21,820</u>

Whilst nearly 90,000 birds condemned appears at first glance to be a very large number, it must be realised that this is only about 1½% of the number killed and that it is falsely high owing to Fowl Pest. It is interesting to note that only 50,806 birds were condemned in 1969.

It has for some years been the opinion of this Department (an opinion commented upon in the last annual report), that thawing instructions should be printed on the packets of frozen poultry. It is encouraging to note that a national move towards this aim is now under way.

#### FOOD PREMISES

The number of food premises in the area classified by type of business and the number of inspections of these premises made during the year are recorded in the accompanying table.

	<u>*Total No. of premises</u>	<u>No. of Inspections made</u>
Bakers	4	8
Dutchers	20	45
General Provisions	46	88
Fried fish shops	11	16
Restaurants, cafes.	19	63
Hotels	7	10
Licenced Clubs	25	81
Licenced premises	54	
Food manufacturers	8	
Canteens (Schools, factories and public buildings)	59	70
Milk distributors	5	16
Greengrocers	7	21
Confectioners	29	42
Wet Fish	5	6
‡ Stalls	35	155
Miscellaneous	12	11

\* These figures should be regarded as approximate because in many cases different businesses are conducted from the same premises.

‡ This figure does not include mobile food traders.

#### MARKET STALLS

Regular inspections were carried out of the market food stalls and mobile traders in the town. In the main the standard of compliance with the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966 was quite good, but it was found that frequent visits were necessary to maintain the progress achieved. It was necessary on one occasion during the year to threaten proceedings against one food stall holder unless he complied with the Regulations by a certain date. I am pleased to record that the stall did comply with the Regulations by the stipulated date, and therefore, no legal action was taken.



## UNSOUND FOOD

Whilst it is a contravention of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for a food business to sell or offer for sale food which is unfit for human consumption, it is also an offence for any person to have in his possession for the purpose of sale food which is unfit. Food businesses receive food which is unfit due to deterioration or transit damage and for their convenience arrangements are made for them to voluntarily surrender this unsound food to this Department. Certificates of voluntary surrender stating the types of food, quantities and weights are issued to the firms who then claim recompense from the manufacturers or insurers. Whilst this amount of work is not large when dealing with retail shops it can be demanding at the larger wholesale premises. Another such firm commenced business in the Borough during the year and together with others is now taking up more and more time in the inspection of unsound food.

Food stuffs found to be unfit for human consumption and diverted to other purposes or destroyed by the Department were in total as follows:-

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lb.
Sweets	-	8	-	9
Flour	-	14	-	5
Biscuits and pastries	-	3	-	13
Soup	-	5	3	15
Ice Cream	-	7	2	5
Cheese	-	1	1	4
Vegetables	1	12	-	11
Fruit and cereals	4	4	1	6
Tinned milk, fish, fruit, etc.	-	11	3	8
Tinned meat	1	-	-	10
Fresh vegetables	-	1	3	13
Miscellaneous	-	17	3	20
	10	8	-	7
Meat and offals (at slaughterhouse)	103	3	-	10
Poultry	101	3	2	27
Rabbits (184)	-	5	2	18
	215	-	2	6

Four thousand three hundred and twenty one (3,006) voluntary surrender certificates for unsound food were issued.

## HOUSING

### OVERCROWDING

No serious cases of overcrowding were encountered during the year.

### SLUM CLEARANCE

With the advent of the Housing Act, 1969, the emphasis on housing work appears to have changed from Slum Clearance action to improvement and modernisation of existing housing stock. Only 15 houses were demolished and 42 houses were closed and vacated during the year. Six Closing Orders were determined following works to make the houses fit. In all cases improvement grants were given to aid this work.

A re-appraisal of the Slum Clearance situation in the town during the year resulted in almost 100 houses being removed from the proposed Slum Clearance list. This re-appraisal was urgently needed as it was known that many of the houses on the list had been repaired and/or improved since the list was last reviewed.

One Clearance Order entailing 7 Clearance Areas was however made and submitted to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation. 32 houses comprising the 7 areas were considered to be unfit for human habitation. 12 objections to the Order were received and several other owners of the properties indicated that they were prepared to repair and improve their houses. So good in fact was the response that by the end of the year the Order was being re-considered and negotiations were taking place with the owners of the houses and their representatives. It was hoped that in the New Year it would be possible to recommend the Council to apply to the Secretary of State for the Environment for the withdrawal of the application for confirmation of the Clearance Order.

### IMPROVEMENTS

During the first full year that the Department has undertaken the entire control of improvement grants a great deal of time has been spent in this connection. 52 grants were approved by the Department, 32 of these being Improvement Grants, which are given at the discretion of the Local Authority. The importance of this work is underlined by the fact that the Standard Grants approved amounted to a maximum of £2,910 and the approved expenses for Improvement Grants amounted to £34,350 9s. 10d. Each application for an Improvement Grant must be accompanied by at least one detailed and priced specification of the work proposed, and this is carefully scrutinized and re-priced where thought necessary before a grant is awarded. Improvement Grants amounting to £15,793 15s. 6d. were approved during the year.

Following the repeal of legislation compelling owners of tenanted houses in specified Improvement Areas to modernise their houses, it was decided that no further action should be taken to pursue the existing compulsory notices outstanding in the two Improvement Areas declared by the Council.

Powers to compel owners to improve individual tenanted houses remain where the tenant requests this improvement. The single request made to the Department to exercise this compulsion reflects, in my opinion, the lack of publicity given to this aspect of improvement.

During October the Department took the opportunity of publicising the whole grant system by organising and manning a section at the Bury Trades Fair held at the Athenaeum. Whilst several houses are in the process of being improved as a result of enquiries received on the stand, in the main it was considered that the response from the public did not justify the amount of effort which was put into the organisation.

Many enquiries have been received from house owners who have been misled by features in the national press advertising Improvement Grants. There is a surprising number of owners who think it is possible to obtain a grant purely for the repair of their houses or for the installation of central heating.



## REPAIRS

Following routine inspections and complaints, 99 houses which were found to be defective, were repaired as a result of informal action by your Inspectors.

The following list shows details of the works which have been completed.

	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Roofs repaired	34	64
Guttering and rainwater downpipes repaired or renewed	34	61
External walls repaired or repointed	77	68
Doors repaired or renewed	33	37
Chimneys, flues and fireplaces repaired	12	43
Floors repaired and renewed	38	95
Windows repaired or enlarged	78	152
Dampness remedied	61	128
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	105	97
Stairs and staircases repaired	5	35
Food stores provided	4	17
Internal water supplies repaired	-	1
Sinks provided or renewed	2	8
Water Closets repaired	3	13
Drainage - repairs and improvements	34	33
External decoration	3	6
Yard pavements repaired	-	6
Dry rot remedied	-	5
Woodworm infestations treated	4	7
Hot water systems and baths provided	18	10
Means of space heating provided	12	-
Miscellaneous	14	8
	<u>571</u>	<u>894</u>

## RENTS

On the 1st January, 1971 some controlled tenancies were eligible to be converted to regulated tenancies with an associated rent increase. These houses are the higher rated dwellings, and houses with lower rateable values become eligible for this change of tenancy on 1st July, 1971 and the 1st January, 1972. Well before the appropriate date an owner wishing to convert a tenancy from a controlled to a regulated one makes application to the Department for a Qualification Certificate. The complicated procedure which ensues, does I feel, prevent more owners obtaining higher rents for themselves. Nevertheless, 16 Qualification Certificates have been issued within the last two months of the year. Many of the houses at present the subject of controlled tenancies in the town, have a rateable value at the lower end of the scale and many owners have probably not yet bothered to apply as there is still some twelve months to go before their tenancies can be converted. The conversion to a regulated tenancy can only be approved where the house is provided with all the standard amenities, and is in all respects in good condition.

## HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

A house in multiple occupation is regarded as being premises occupied by members of more than one household and facilities are shared.

Officially there are only about 15 of these houses known to the Department. There are undoubtedly more which would come to light in the event of a detailed house-to-house investigation in certain areas of the town. Whilst this type of survey can produce some very worthwhile information one has to balance the value of this against work which is necessarily left while such a survey is being conducted. As there is little, or no problem from houses in multiple occupation in Bury St. Edmunds at this time, it is considered better to inspect these houses as, and when the Department becomes aware of their existence.

## MEANS OF ESCAPE FROM FIRE

Some 15 visits were made during the year to hotels, buildings let in flats, etc. to inspect the arrangements for means of escape in case of fire. Where necessary the Fire Prevention Officer was asked to accompany the Inspector to advise him on the technical details. Several premises were found to be unsatisfactory and informal approaches to the owners concerned have led to remedial works being undertaken.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

During the year 22 premises were brought onto the register and 28 registrations were cancelled for various reasons such as closing of premises, no longer employing people etc. At the end of the year there remained 445 premises on the register employing a total number of 3,735 persons. As perhaps can be expected the number of female employees exceeded the males, the figures being 2,082 females and 1,652 males.

During the year 831 visits were made to premises and of these 301 were general inspections. On the whole very few difficulties have been experienced in enforcing the Act, although it was necessary in one case to prosecute under Section 6 (2) of the Act, which requires a minimum temperature of 60° 8° F. to be attained after the first hour of work. The firm was fined a total of £15 plus 5 guineas costs. Two other firms were given a specific date by which time contraventions had to be remedied to prevent proceedings being instituted against them. Both complied with the legislation by the stipulated date.

Once again several contraventions have been abated informally during the year and details of these can be seen in the following table.

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Cleanliness	31	20
Temperature	8	4
Provision of thermometers	24	11
Ventilation	23	14
Lighting	15	16
Washing facilities	11	17
Soap and Towels	5	3



	1969	1970
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u>		
(a) Provision of	1	-
(b) Defects general	19	31
(c) Marked for sexes	5	1
(d) Incinerators	-	-
(e) Decoration	4	12
(f) Clearliness	-	17
<u>Clothing Accommodation</u>		
(a) Hanging	9	5
(b) Drying	9	8
<u>Sitting Facilities</u>	1	-
<u>Eating facilities</u>	2	-
Floors, passages, and stairs	91	96
Obstructions	-	1
First aid	22	12
Abstract of Act	27	16
Ceilings and walls repaired	19	17
Regulations displayed	-	-
Overcrowding	5	-
Drinking water and vessels	1	-
Guarding of machinery	4	2
General defects	8	19
Washing of cups in wash-hand basin	-	1
General decoration	12	8
Lifts and hoists	1	-
Lifting of heavy weights	1	-

Thirteen accidents were reported, almost double the figure for the previous year. However, none of these were very serious. All accidents were investigated and it was found that on the whole these were caused by human element and not negligence on the part of the employers. Advice was given and no further action was necessary.

Inspections under the Lifts and Hoists Regulations are being carried out where possible at the time of the general inspection. Certificates in respect of the examination of these lifts and hoists for insurance purposes are required to be seen during the inspection of the premises. It is found in some of the branch shops that these certificates are held at their Head Office, and are therefore, not readily available. Where this situation is encountered, the Inspectors have been requesting that copies of the certificates should be made available at the branches.

#### FACTORIES ACT 1961

Inspections were carried out of premises under the above Act, and, as will be seen from the following table, some defects were noted.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	12	2	
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	184	69	24	
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outwork- ers' premises)	97	8	-	
TOTAL	289	89	26	

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which pros- ecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector Referred	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	14	14			
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	5	3			
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	1			
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3			
(c) not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offence relating to outwork)					
TOTAL	24	21			



OUTWORK

(Sections 110 & 111)

	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (C)	No. of cases in default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
are						
k						
ing						
rel						
ng,	4					
works						
misc.	0					
L	4					

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT, 1950

At each market throughout the year a member of the Department is present to issue licences for the movement of swine under the Movement of Swine Order, 1959. During the year 3,530 (3,655) movement licences were issued.

The growing number of outbreaks of fowl pest in the area during the late summer finally resulted in the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food making The Fowl Pest (Infected Areas) Special Order No. 3, 1970. This Order which came into operation on the 26th September, 1970 included the whole of Suffolk and the near counties to the west and north. The general effect of the Order was to prohibit the unlicensed movement of poultry out of, within or into the Infected Area. Licences can only be issued by your Inspectors for the movement of poultry within the area and coming to the packing stations in the town for immediate slaughter. During the year under review 353 such licences were issued.

Sales of poultry by auction only were permitted in the Borough by special licence and the birds sold at these markets were immediately slaughtered.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

During the year the number of premises found to be infested with rats fell below the figure for the preceding year and no real trouble was experienced. On the other hand the number of premises found to be infested with mice again rose substantially, and early suspicions that the mice in this area are largely Warfarin resistant were confirmed. This resistance to Warfarin is not isolated to this part of the country and is possibly attributable to the unskilled treatment carried out on domestic premises by the occupiers. Warfarin is not now being used by the Department for the treatment of mice and satisfactory results are being obtained with the alternative poisons which are being used.

The numbers of infestations of rodents over the past 5 years can be seen from the following table. The upward trend of mouse infestations is highlighted during the last three years.

Year	Number of infested properties treated	
	Rats	Mice
1966	389	96
1967	411	72
1968	420	39
1969	400	111
1970	383	221

The exceptionally fine summer produced another bumper crop of wasps nests and 259 were destroyed. 174 other premises were treated for infestations of various insects. A large proportion (136) of these premises were infested with earwigs. In the main these infestations of earwigs are encountered on the new estates built within the last 3 or 4 years. The insects involved in other infestations were mainly ants, cockroaches and beetles, but occasionally the Department is still being requested to deal with infestations of fleas and bed bugs.

Three infestations of "woolly bears" were treated. These nuisances, the larval stage of the carpet beetle, can cause tremendous damage on domestic premises as they prefer the warmth and darkness of airing cupboards and large quantities of clothing and blankets are normally kept there. Such an infestation may have been in existence for weeks, if not months before it is discovered.

#### NOISE ABATEMENT

During 1970 some 20 complaints were received of alleged noise nuisances. After a thorough investigation only 5 of these complaints were in fact confirmed as statutory nuisances. 2 of the 5 involved industrial premises, the remainder commercial premises. In all 5 cases the nuisances were abated by informal action involving discussions with the firms concerned when suitable advice was given.

In the remaining 15 cases where a complaint was received and nuisances were not confirmed, advice was given to the complainant on any action which was available to them. As in the past the predominant cause for complaints has been the barking of dogs.

One complaint only was received regarding the chimes on ice cream vans being used outside the permitted hours. No official action was taken in this instance, but the driver of the ice cream van was warned that the repetition of this offence might result in proceedings being taken against him.



Much disturbance is caused in residences by the noise and vibration from vehicular traffic. No action under the Noise Abatement Act as it stands at the moment is possible in these circumstances. Whilst some parts of the town are going to be relieved of this trouble within the next few years when the proposed relief roads are constructed, there will be many parts of the town which will never be free. Not only is the noise and vibration from traffic a constant worry, but another concern is that environmental pollution from the concentration of fumes in the narrow and busy roads in the town is increasing.

#### PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928

Each year the Department is responsible for licensing all existing petroleum spirit stores and tanks together with those for cellulose and carbide of calcium. New installations are controlled by the Department and the installation works are supervised from the moment the plans are deposited.

There are 79 petroleum installations in the town together with 11 cellulose and petroleum mixture stores and 2 carbide of calcium stores. A total of 226,585 gallons of petroleum spirit, 2,620 gallons of cellulose and petroleum mixtures and 10 cwts. of carbide of calcium is licensed to be stored in the Borough.

Whilst there is still only one attended self-service filling station in the town, two others are in the process of construction and enquiries concerning the change over to self-service stations have been made by several other garages.

Each year all the licensed premises are inspected to ensure that the installations conform with the Licence Conditions. Periodically the petroleum tanks are tested, and during the year 18 such pressure tests were carried out to ensure that the tanks were in good condition. A tank is expected to withstand an internal pressure of 10 lb/si for 24 hours. For safety reasons the pressure is attained by the use of nitrogen gas. The frequency with which these tests are carried out depends upon the age of the tanks. Tanks installed 30 years or more ago are tested every 2 years, and whilst many of the older tanks in the middle of the town have been taken out of service, there are still some remaining and it can only be a matter of time before these tanks fail to pass the test. It is essential that these tanks are tested regularly and that any leaks are detected at any early stage, particularly when the tanks are situated in the centre of the town.

An annual inspection by a competent person of all electrical apparatus within the danger zone of each petroleum installation must be undertaken as a Condition of Licence. Detailed inspection forms issued by the Department, have to be completed and the electrical installation certified by the competent person as being satisfactory and safe.

#### EXPLOSIVES ACT 1875

Premises which store explosives are subject to an annual registration and this work is undertaken by the Department.

29 such premises were registered during 1970, 2 of which stored mixed explosives, 3 stored cartridges, 1 explosive rope and the remainder fireworks.

As usual, inspections were carried out of the shops which sought licences to store fireworks. These inspections took place shortly before Guy Fawkes night. Probably because of the amount of publicity regarding the dangers of fireworks, it has been found that the safety standards applied in shops have risen considerably in the past year or so.

#### SHOPS ACT

In October a special extension of hours was granted for the business carried on at the Bury Trades Fair held in the Athenaeum.

In accordance with the usual practice an extension of hours was also permitted during the week immediately preceding Christmas.

Several contentious points were dealt with following appeals for advice from shops and their employees during the year. The main point concerned the half day closing in weeks prior to and after Bank Holiday weekends. Advice was given on several occasions regarding the permitted working hours for young persons under 18 years of age.

#### CLEAN AIR ACT

In general atmospheric pollution is one of the least worries of the Department. Smoke observations are carried out periodically on factory chimneys, but the biggest problem which is encountered is the burning of waste on land adjacent to industrial premises. Whilst it is acknowledged that it is not always easy to obtain the removal of industrial waste, your Inspectors always insist upon the fires being extinguished and alternative methods of disposal being used.

Only one application for approval of a furnace installation and chimney height was received in 1970.

#### CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT

During the year 4 sites have been legally occupied by caravans. One site involves 34 caravans and is used as a permanent residential site. Conditions here remained at a satisfactorily high level.

As usual 2 sites were made available for winter quarters for the Showmens Guild members, the main one being behind The Broadway in Eastgate Street. One individual licence was issued for the stationing of a caravan for a temporary period on land in Rushbrooke Lane whilst the licensee built a residence on the site.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

The Department is responsible for the administration of a dustbin hiring scheme under the Public Health Act, 1936. These dustbins are available for hiring to domestic premises only, and during the year the number on hire increased from 1,398 to 1,416.

During the year 1,210 complaints and requests for the services of the Department were made. This figure is gradually increasing each year.





